

THE CONFERENCE'S PROGRAM

Tuesday – March 15^h, 2011

8:00 – 8:45 – **Gathering & Refreshments**, Hecht Auditorium, Main building

8:45 – 10:15 - Morning Session (Hecht Auditorium)

Chairman – **Prof. Reuven Snir** (University of Haifa)

Greetings – **Prof. Aaron Ben Zeev** – (President of The University of Haifa)

Opening Remarks – **Prof. Ofra Mayseless** (Dean of the faculty of Education – University of Haifa)

Organ Playing – **Eyal Brook**

A Lecture: **Prof. Moshe Idel** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

From Kabala to Contemporary Mysticism

10:15 – 10:45 - Break

10:45 – 12:30 – Parallel Sessions A – (located in various rooms, see below)

12:30 – 13:30 – Lunch Break

13:30 – 15:15 – Parallel Sessions B – (located in various rooms, see below)

15:15 – 15:30 – Break

15:30 – 17:15 – Parallel Sessions C – (located in various rooms, see below)

17:15 – 17:30 – Break and refreshments

17:30 – 19:00 – Evening Session (Hecht Auditorium)

Chairman: **Dr. Marianna Ruah-Midbar** (University of Haifa)

Panel: **The Changing Boundaries of New Religiosity and Spirituality in Israel**

Prof. Yoram Bilu (Psychologist and Anthropologist, Hebrew University of Jerusalem), **Mr. Gil Kopatz**
(Satirist)

Discussion with the Audience

* The majority of Lectures are in Hebrew. Lectures in English are colored.

Parallel Sessions A

Panel A1: Spiritual Attitudes in Psychotherapy (Hecht Auditorium, Main building)

Chair: Prof. Rivka Yahav (University of Haifa)

1. **Spirit, mind and body in surgical operating room** Dr. Zahi Arnon (The Max Stern Academic College of Emek Yezreel)
2. **Mindfulness as a Gateway to the Unconscious – The Hakomi Method** Mrs. Keren Tzarfaty (California Institute of Integral Studies)
3. **Therapy and channeling: Transitions in self and reality perception among people who were exposed to therapy involving channeling** Dr. Liora Birnbaum

Panel A2: Israeli Judaism Today – A Session Combining Visual Documentation from the "People Israel – the Guide to the Israeli Society" Project (Ofer observatory, 30th floor, Eshkol Building)

Chair: Prof. Rachel Hertz Lazarowitz (University of Haifa)

1. **Synagogues and Praying Communities in Israel** Prof. Oz Almog (University of Haifa)
2. **Jews, Hebrews, And Jews Again: The Renaissance Of Judaism Within Israeli Society** Mr. Yair Sheleg (Bar-Ilan University)
3. **Studying Judaism on the Internet** Dr. Tamar Almog (University of Haifa)

Panel A3: Neo-Hasidism (Senate Room, 29th floor, Eshkol Building)

Chair: Prof. Haviva Pedaya (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

1. **Can the intensity mysticism of Rav Kook's compete with the magic inspiring of Rav Nachman of Breslav?** Dr. Semadar Cherlow (Bar-Ilan University)
2. **The Influence of Reb Shlomo Carlebach on the Neo-Hasidic Revival** Dr. Natan Ophir [Offenbacher] [JMIJ [Jewish Meditation Institute Jerusalem]]
3. **The Yemima Method: Conscious Awareness as a Contemporary Feminine Hasidism with Feminist Traits** Dr. Tsippi Kauffman (Shalom Hartman Institute, Tel Aviv University)
4. **Thought, Imagination and Renewal in Hasidut and Neo-Hasidut: The Besht, the Admor of Piaseczno and Philip Wexler** Shelly Goldberg (Bar-Ilan University)

Panel A4: Spirituality in Literature: Expression, Development and Initiation (Room 570, 5th Floor, Education building)

Chair: Dr. Danielle Gurevitch (Bar-Ilan University)

1. **The Tao of Leah Goldberg: Spiritual wisdom in the "End of the Roads" poem** Dr. Alon Raz (The Max Stern Academic College of Emek Yezreel, University of Haifa)
2. **The consciousness's heroic journey - transpersonal perspectives on the hero's journey** Dr. Meirav Hermesh (Reidman College, Netanya Academic College)
3. **From a still small voice to eloquent silence: on silence as means of communication** Dr. Michal Ephratt (University of Haifa)
4. **The Search for Meaning as a Central Axis in the Person's Narrative: Tools for interpretation and Implementations for the Field of Coaching** Dr. Dina Skolnik (Talpiot College of Education, Netanya Academic College)

Panel A5: Contemporary Spirituality: Between Escapism and Social Involvement (Room 566, 5th Floor, Education building)

Chair: Prof. Hanan Alexander (University of Haifa)

1. **The Return of the Spirit: Mystification of the sciences** Prof. Yossi Yona (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
2. **Society and Mysticism Reproduction and Revolution** Prof. Phillip Wexler (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
3. **From the Cushion to the Community and the Forests - Engaged Buddhism** Prof. Yaacov Raz (Tel Aviv University)

Panel A6: Contemporary Paganism – includes a demonstration of a ceremony (Room 364, 3rd Floor, Education building)

Chair: Prof. Nahum Megged (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

1. **Demonstration of a Pagan Ritual – The Spring Equinox** Ms. Shaher Bat-Adama and other.
2. **The Politics of the Goddess: Radical/Cultural Feminist Influences on Starhawk's Feminist Witchcraft** Mr. Shai Feraro (Tel Aviv University)
3. **Wicca, a study in the process of identity formation and belief alteration within the context of religion** Ms. Orly Salinas Mizrahi (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
4. **The physiological aspect of the Wiccan ritual** Dr. Yael Katz-Henkin

Parallel Sessions B

Panel B1: Spirituality in Management and in Business (Hecht Auditorium, Main building)

Chair: Dr. Nurit Zaidman (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

1. **Invitation to not-knowing: A case study of a joint venture between Buddhism and management** Dr. Ora Setter and Prof. Yaacov Raz (Tel Aviv University)
2. **Correlation between Workplace Spirituality and Organizational Commitment, Job Satisfaction and Burnout in offices of Social Services – The Hakomi Method** Ms. Gilboa-Arama, Prof. Rivka Yahav, Dr. Anat Freund (University of Haifa)
3. **Spiritual leadership? The development of authentic self in organizational discourse-is it a reality or a dream** Ms. Keren Tsuk (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
4. **The Relationship between Personal and Work Spirituality and Work Satisfaction among Religious and Secular Israeli Muslims and Jews** Dr. Aryeh Lazar (Ariel University Center of Samaria)
5. **Is Business Helping to Move Us in the Direction of Spirituality?** Prof. Len Tischler (University of Scranton)

Panel B2: Contemporary Kabbalah – Session Combined with an Experimental Workshop (Ofer observatory, 30th floor, Eshkol Building)

Chair: Dr. Yosef Chayut (University of Haifa)

1. **Jacob Ifergan, the "Rentgen" -a mystic, a magican, or a business club?** Mr. Gary Schaffer (Tel Aviv University)
2. **Gershom Scholem the Cabala detective as a figure in works of fiction** Mr. Eli Eshed (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
3. **An Experiential Workshop – Hebrew/Kabbalistic Meditation** Mr. Shaul Shmuel

Panel B3: Meaning, Spirituality and Mental Health (Senate Room, 29th floor, Eshkol Building)

Chair: Prof. Azy Barak (University of Haifa)

1. **Towards Forgiveness: Theoretical and Therapeutic Perspective** Dr. Yitzhak Lander (Sapir College) and Prof. Vered Slonim-Nevo (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
2. **Testifying on trauma as the missed encounter with the Real and as a potential of conscious evolution - two points of view** Ms. Ruth Golan (Bar-Ilan University)

3. **Magical thinking in life threatening health situations: Mothers of very low weight preterm babies** Dr. Nehami Baum (Bar-Ilan University),
4. **Sense of coherence, hope and values among adolescents under missile attacks: a longitudinal study** Dr. Orna Braun-Lewensohn and Prof. Shifra Sagy (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
5. **The relationship between daily spiritual experiences and occupational participation** Mrs. Anat Elbaz-Schneiderman (University of Haifa)

Panel B4: Spiritual Alternatives in Education (Room 570, 5th Floor, Education building)

Chair: Prof. Tamar Katriel (University of Haifa)

1. **On Religiosity and Education in a "Post-Secular" Age** Dr. Yotam Hotam (University of Haifa)
2. **Education as yoga, yoga as education: a theoretical explanation and physical demonstration** Mr. Oren Ergas (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
3. **A Decade of Waldorf Alumni in Israel** Mr. Gilad Goldshmidt (University of Haifa)

Panel B5: The Study of Contemporary Spiritualities: Conceptualizations and Methods (Room 566, 5th Floor, Education building)

Chair: Prof. Yoram Bilu (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

1. **The Prophet Motive: How Religions Really Begin** Prof. James R. Lewis (University of Tromsø)
2. **From Opinions to Facts: The Problem of Reference in the New Spiritual Discourse** Dr. Avital Sharon (The University of Texas at Austin)
3. **Using researchers' feelings as a method of enriching the research** Ms. Liora Nutov (The Technion, Gordon College, Oranim College)
4. **De pace fidei: Image, Representation and Hierarchy - A Comparative Perspective** Dr. Madeea Axinciuc (University of Bucharest)

Panel B6: Spirituality in Movement: Session combined with an Experiential Lecture (Room 364, 3rd Floor, Education building)

Chair: Dr. Dita Federman (University of Haifa)

1. **The Moving Body along with Imagery and Expression as means for the Unity of Self and Spirit** Ms. Vered Keter
2. **Body and Soul in Motion: Are they changing the therapeutic discourse** Ms. Tal Berger Tikochinski (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
3. **What does the body know** Mrs. Einav Rosenblit (Tel Aviv University)

Parallel Sessions C

Panel C1: Dream and Reality in the Spiritual Cinema: The Film 'Inception' – A Session combined with Movie Clips (Hecht Auditorium, Main building)

Chair: Dr. Yvonne Kozlovsky Golan (University of Haifa)

Presentations including clips from the movie 'Inception'

1. **The Spiritual Dimension of Screen Consciousness: Choreography in a Field of Dream, Reality and Eternal Life** Dr. Lila Moore (Zefat Academic College)
2. **Reality and dream – levels of consciousness and parallel worlds** Dr. Micha Ankori (Seminar Hakibutzim college)

Panel C2: Jews in the Encounter with the Cultures of Asia (Ofer observatory, 30th floor, Eshkol Building)

Chair: Prof. Yoav Elstein (Bar-Ilan University)

1. **Meditation on a Jewish Koan** Dr. Daniel Stambler (Hadassah College Jerusalem)
2. **'Buddhism to the Jews' or 'Judaism to Buddhists'?: Interweaving Judaism and Buddhism in meditation practices in America and in Israel** Ms. Mira Niculescu (Ecole de Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales [EHESS] Paris)
3. **Two Visits to Santiniketan: Shlomith Flaum and Alex Aronson in Tagore's Adobe of Peace** Ms. Carmit Rosen (University of Haifa)
4. **Universal Conceptual Elements in the Neo-Breslov Movement** Prof. Yoram Kirsh (The Open University of Israel)

Panel C3: The Jewish Tradition as a Resource for Contemporary Spirituality – Session combined with a Workshop (Senate Room, 29th floor, Eshkol Building)

Chair: Prof. Menachem Kellner (University of Haifa)

1. **Israeli Spirituality: From Spiritual Zionism to Israeli Identity** Dr. Reuven Gerber (The David Yellin Academic College of Education, Levinsky College of Education)
2. **Loving kindness and Truth: The Narrative of the Book of Genesis as a Foundation For Spiritual Care When Facing a Existential Distress** Dr. Einat Ramon (The Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies)
3. **The Gospel of Rabbi Nachman in respect of developmental and therapeutic processes** Mr. Shai Gil and Mr. Roe Horen (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Panel C4: Spirituality in Oncology (Room 570, 5th Floor, Education building)

Chair: Dr. Nadav Davidovitch (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

1. **"The spirit loves me": spiritual aspects of palliative psycho-oncological treatment integrated with complementary medicine, Oncology Department, Lin Medical Centre, Clalit Health Services, Haifa** Ms. Olga Agour (Lin Medical Center), Dr. Eran Ben-Arye (The Technion)
2. **Spirituality as a Resource Post-Breast Cancer** Dr. Ety Shachar Siman-Tov (University of Haifa, Arab-Israeli College for Education, Haifa, University of Hartford)
3. **A Survey of Israeli Oncologic Patients' Attitudes towards Spiritual Care** Rabbi Michael J. Schultz, Ms. Naomi Segal, Mr. Doron Lulav, Mr. Gil Bar-Sela (Rambam Health Care Campus)

Panel C5: The Mystical Experience in the Spirit of the New Age (Room 566, 5th Floor, Education building)

Chair: Prof. Aryeh Kofsky (University of Haifa)

1. **Between Introspection and Meditation** Dr. Daniel Mishori (Tel Aviv University)
2. **The uniqueness of the New Age mystic and the uniqueness of the New Age mystical experience** Mr. Ziv Pergamen (Tel Aviv University)
3. **"On Aimless Meditation": Zazen Meditation and the Landscape of Contemporary Spiritual Practice** Mr. Eitan Bolokan (Tel Aviv University)
4. **The Neutralization of the Mystical Aspect of R. Nachman of Breslov's *Hitbodedut* Amongst His Contemporary Followers** Mr. Tomer Persico (Tel Aviv University)

Panel C6: Spirituality and Feminism (Room 364, 3rd Floor, Education building)

Chair: Dr. Sharon Halevi (University of Haifa)

1. **Rematriation: Re-thinking Women's Spirituality in the New Age** Dr. Erella Shadmi (The Max Stern Academic College of Emek Yezreel)
2. **The model of masculine and feminine spiritual evolutions in love relationships according to David Deida in comparison to the model of the NESIRA in Lurianic Kabala** Rabbi Ohad Ezrahi (University of Haifa)
3. **Symbols of the Self in the drawings of Georgia O'Keeffe** Ms. Ruth Netzer (Seminar Hakibutzim college)
4. **Menstruation seen through the Speculum of Women's Feminist Spirituality** Ms. Sarit Gayle Moas (Bar-Ilan University)

Conference's Academic Committee

Chair: Prof. Ofra Maysseless (University of Haifa), Dr. Marianna Ruah Midbar (University of Haifa).

Committee Members: Prof. Moshe Idel (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Dr. Daniella Gurvich (Bar-Ilan University),
Dr. Nadav Davidovich (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev), Prof. Phillip Wexler (Hebrew University of Jerusalem),
Prof. Mario Mikulincer (Interdisciplinary Center in Herzeliya), Prof. Yaacov Raz (Tel Aviv University),
Prof. Yossi Yona (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

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